

Budget Work Meeting and Regular City Council Meeting

City Hall

June 15, 2026

Mayor Ferguson opened the Budget Work Meeting at 6:00pm and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Others Attending are:

Council: Kerri Baird, Mike Duval, and Leonard Woehler. Jeff Davis was absent.

City Staff: Hope Mosness, Clerk/Treasurer, Misti Titeca, Library Directory, Jessie Connolly, City Court Judge, and Jim Lippert, City Attorney

Public: Negel O'Connor, Bryan Sondeno, Barbara Selk, Linda Brunckhorst, Angela Selby, Mike Shirley, Mark Curry, Melanie Roe, Elisha Sherman, Trevor Martin, and Lauren Dillon

Judge Jessie Connolly presented information on her budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

Library Director Misti Titeca presented the Council with her preliminary budget and requested increases in her technology and repairs and maintenance line items.

Hope Mosness presented information on property taxes and how the taxable value changes will affect the city's property tax revenue.

Mayor Ferguson closed the Budget Work Meeting at 6:50pm and opened the Regular City Council Meeting at 7pm.

Councilman Duval made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 1, 2026, Regular City Council Meeting, seconded by Councilman Woehler. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council present.

Councilman Duval made a motion of informal consideration of all the remaining agenda items, seconded by Councilwoman Baird. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council present.

Page Dringman and Melanie Roe presented information to the City Council about the possibility of a Joint Port Authority between Sweet Grass County and the City of Big Timber for the purpose of economic development. They drafted a resolution and would like to create a board of directors to oversee the port authority. The decision on whether or not to adopt the resolution will be put on the next meeting agenda.

Mayor Ferguson stated that he spoke with the Montana Department of Transportation about a four-way stop at the intersection of McLeod Street and 1st Avenue. Public Comment: Brian Sondeno would like to have no parking from each side of the intersection to the alley. He believes a four-way stop would solve the problem, but thinks there's a potential for a horrible accident if we did put a four-way stop in. He suggested a sign that would warn drivers of an upcoming four-way stop. Lauren Dillon and Mike Shirley agreed with the parking restrictions. Mike would also like to see more speed enforcement on 1st Avenue. Lauren also worries about the pedestrian traffic at the intersection when Sweet Grass Tavern opens. The Council agreed that there should be parking restrictions along 1st Avenue. The Council also agreed to move forward with a public hearing on this matter.

Mayor Ferguson presented a change order from Weave Construction for the Task 2 & 3 Street Improvements project. Councilman Woehler made a motion to approve the change order for Task 2 & 3 Street Improvements by Weave Construction, seconded by Councilman Duval. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council present.

The city received a letter from the Montana Board of Investments asking if the city is going to use the InterCap loan funds that were applied for solid waste equipment. Councilwoman Baird made a motion to reject extending the InterCap loan for solid waste equipment, seconded by Councilman Woehler. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council present.

Councilwoman Baird made a motion to approve the claims for the second half of May 2026, seconded by Councilman Duval. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council present.

Public Comment: Trevor Martin asked if they could have a church service at the soccer field at Dornix Park on June 21st for Father's Day. Barbara Selk stated that the pool was really cold this morning. There is a tree in the park by the pool and it is leaning and needs to be looked at. There are two huge potholes at Bramble Street and 6th Avenue as well as Busha Street and 1st Avenue that need to be patched. She also stated that the mowing at the park does not look good. Mark Curry asked if we could put non-operating cars on city streets on the agenda next month. Trevor Martin followed up that the semi on West 2nd Avenue has 5 days to be moved. Linda Brunckhorst stated that she was delighted to see the street sweeper out, but she said they are not going along the gutter. It was going down the middle of the street. She said the debris is still in front of her house. Mark suggested that there should be signage on the streets for cars not to park on street sweeping days. Lauren Dillon got to speak at a rural summit last week in Missoula on the challenges and successes that are accomplished in our small towns.

Council Concerns: Councilman Woehler stated that we need to get on the potholes and get them patched especially on Harris Street between 1st and 3rd Avenue.

There being no further business to go before the Council, Councilman Woheler, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48pm seconded by Councilman Duval. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council present.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Justin Ferguson", written over a horizontal line.

Justin Ferguson, Mayor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Hope Mosness", written over a horizontal line.

Hope Mosness, Clerk/Treasurer